



TOWN OF VANCEBORO

BOARD OF ALDERMAN MEETING

*Held their regular monthly meeting on
June 7, 2021 at 8:00 PM
in the Jimmie L. Morris Boardroom*

- I. Call to order by **Mayor Chad Braxton**.
- II. Roll call. **Those Present: Mayor Chad Braxton, Alderman Steve Belrose, Alderman Keith Cannon, Alderman Thad Jones, Alderman Todd McMillen and Alderman Dennis Smith.**
- III. Invocation by **Alderman McMillen**.
- IV. Pledge of Allegiance.
- V. Approval of minutes from last meeting. **Alderman Smith made a motion to approve minutes. Motion was seconded by Alderman Jones and carried. Vote 5-0.**
- VI. Approval of Cash Receipts and Disbursements. **Alderman McMillen made a motion to pay bills. Motion was seconded by Alderman Cannon and carried. Vote 5-0.**
- VII. Zoning & Planning Board – Chairman Russell Ipock. **The Town of Vanceboro’s Zoning Ordinances were last updated in 1977. The Zoning & Planning Board has made a few changes to improve verbiage throughout the ordinance and would like the town to consider changing the present ordinance.**

Public Hearing will be set for June 28, 2021 to adopt the FY2021-2022 Budget and to consider adopting these changes presented by the Zoning & Planning Board members.

- VIII. Police Report. **Officer Baker has completed radar certification training and is working on his twelve field training hours at this time. Officer Keys will be taking his radar certification training in the next two months. Our calendar fundraiser generated a \$1500 donation to go towards National Night Out. We’d like to thank all the area businesses that supported this fundraiser. August 7th will be our Back to School Bash and Vanceboro Night Out for the town. We are planning to have things in place for the kids to do and provide t-shirts, hot dogs, bouncy house and etc. Craven County Sheriff’s Office loaded machines up from the sweepstakes business and moved them out of town.**

- IX. Budget Proposal – 2021-2022.

Tax rate will stay the same.

2% COLA for all employees.

No increase on Garbage fees.

Water fees will have a flat rate increase of \$3.50.

No increase on Sewer fees.

New banners throughout Town.

American Rescue Plan – Town will receive \$140,000.

No fund balance needed for 2021-2022 Budget.

Wastewater Plant – Purchase of new lawn mower.

- Purchase of Gearbox.
- Aerator – Remake shaft.

Public Hearing to adopt proposed 2021-2022 budget will be June 28, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. inside the Jimmie L. Morris Boardroom.

- X. Mayor's Report. We received a couple of letters back from the businesses on Main Street to express their ideas of improvements that could be made in town. The suggestions were: having more free events for the residents and creating a sign/lighting ordinance for the businesses throughout town. Hope everyone had a great Memorial Day. Birthdays for June are Officer Herring and Officer Keys. We have had three deaths in our community this month, Tony Caprara, John Dizon and James Wright. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families. In order to use the funds given to us along with Celestial Memorial Garden Cemetery we would have to go to legislation to resolve the perpetual fund care that it is currently listed as. At that point, we would be able to use the funds to extend the cemetery and purchase columbarium's. I attended the Family Literacy Adult National Honor Society and West Craven High School's graduation and the Library Story Walk this month. I am a member of Friends of the Library. Come out and support the local library, the new librarian is working hard to make it look great. Our grass ordinance violators from the past are doing a better job keeping their yards cut this year. West Craven High School had members of the National Honor Society come out and clean signs, cemetery signs and windows throughout town. We appreciate their hard work and service to the Town. July 12th will be our next Board of Alderman meeting. June 24th will be the next recycling date. Town Hall will be closed on July 5th in observance of Independence Day. Sheriff Hughes and District Attorney Thomas issued a cease order to the local sweepstakes business giving the owner ten days to evacuate the premises. Montrell Lec will be the new principal at West Craven High School. Johnny Morris, owner of Bass Pro Shops has purchased Hatteras Yachts in New Bern. I attended the Memorial Day service at the Vanceboro Cemetery by VFW. Congratulations to all the graduating seniors of the Class of 2021.

XI. Alderman Reports.

Alderman Cannon stated that the library would be doing a summer reading program from July 1st through August 4th. Wednesday mornings throughout the month of July will be group activities available. Story Walk was held on May 8th and was a great success. Thanks to Vanceboro Police Department and National Honor Society for lending a hand to help at the event. The library hosted a book signing by Matt Bircher on June 3rd. The library will be placing free library book houses around town. Vanceboro Strawberry Festival will be on October 2nd. Would like to know if anything could be done with the hardness of our water at the end of dead end streets.

Alderman Belrose had no comment.

Alderman Smith thanked Vernon Edwards for fixing several water leaks on Williams Lane.

Alderman Jones had no comment.

Alderman McMillen thanked Vernon Edwards for helping out with water leaks on Williams Lane. Thanks to Zoning Board Chairman Russell Ipock for his help with the changes for the zoning ordinance.

XII. Public Comment.

Andrew Black - 805 College Street thanked Vernon Edwards and his crew for quickly picking up the limbs that was placed by the road. He inquired of the camper at the end of Arnold Street and how long it would remain there. He also stated that the hard water was eating up the faucets and leaves a ring in the commode.

Cliffie Holland – Owner of College of Knowledge – 7816 Main Street – stated that he has made updates to beautify his property on Main Street. He purchased a lot across from the College of Knowledge to place a Sasquatch on just to advertise for his auction business. He has since planted flowers and made it look presentable. He wanted to state that if there was any problem in what he had done and that his business will help attract others to spend money at others businesses in Town.

Maxine Rohrman – 1470 Antioch Road – Wanted to know the scope of the project that will take place at the old elementary school located on the corner of Bailey Lane and Main Street.

Lisa Crawford – Owner of Our Children Child Care – 8415 Main Street – stated that she had read in the Sun Journal the plans for the old elementary school in March. She reached out to the owner of the property and asked about his plans for the property. She stated that she is planning to build and open up a school beside the daycare that she owns. She is nervous to move forward with this because of the situation with the ex-prisoners being housed at the facility on the corner of Bailey Lane and Main Street. She thanked Alderman McMillen for calling the owner as well and appreciated all that had been done.

Billy Whitford – 225 Vance Street – asked if he needs to contact Craven County Commissioner Tom Marks or Chairman of the Craven County Commissioner’s, Jason Jones to voice his opinion about the old elementary school.

XIII. Adjournment.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

I hereby certify that the above is true and accurate record of said minutes.



CHAD E. BRAXTON

BEVERLY W. DRAKE

MAYOR

TOWN CLERK